

► FREE

Gabriel Mahokoe
(see MediaWatch)

Issue #113

February 7-20, '92

Toronto's Anarchist Bi-Weekly
Ecomedia
B U L L E T I N

Ecomedia, P.O. Box 915, Stn F, Toronto Ont. M4Y 2N9

All Material Is Anti-Copy right!



OCAC: 'The Clinics will stay open'

(TORONTO) Vowing "the people have spoken, the clinics will stay open", pro-choice activists recently responded to two violent attacks on the Morgentaler clinic here in Toronto. At the January 28 benefit for the Ontario Coalition of Abortion Clinics (OCAC), activists spoke of the continued need for vigilance in the struggle for choice.

A firebomb thrown at the porch of the clinic, located on Harbord St. caused an estimated \$7,000 in damage to the clinic. The attack, which occurred on Friday, January 24, also caused damage to neighboring businesses and residences. Several nearby



residents had to evacuate their homes following the bombing.

The following Monday, a woman posing as a patient poured what was originally believed to be acid all over the women's washroom. The stench was so overwhelming, passersby could smell it on the street. Damage to the washroom was extensive, but no medical equipment was damaged.

These attacks came merely days after the fourth anniversary of the overturning of Canada's abortion law. Neither attack resulted in injuries.

(continued on page 2)

Confront the Front

DIAL 'F' FOR FASCIST

(TORONTO) The Native Canadian Centre took on the far-right racist hate group "the Heritage Front" last week at a session of the Mayor's Committee on Race Relations. The Heritage Front, a small front group for Ku Klux Klan activities in Toronto, runs a racist 'hateline' called the "Anti-Immigration Hotline" and promotes its sickness through public meetings.

Rodney Bobiwash from the Native Centre approached the mayor's committee with transcripts of 'hateline'

messages targetting Native people, asking that the committee support the Centre's complaint to the Ontario Human Rights Commission and approach Bell Canada to cut off the phone line.

The Heritage Front is spearheaded by Wolfgang Droege, a former Ku Klux Klan officer who has had a long history of racist activities here in Canada and in the U.S.. Droege was one of a handful of Klan members arrested with a boatload of weapons in an attempt

to overthrow the government of Dominica. He has also been convicted of drug trafficking. The Front also has the support of Paul Fromm, a Mississauga school teacher who heads the Citizens for Foreign Aid Reform, another racist front group. Fromm spoke at the Heritage Front's first public meeting, a gathering which was opposed by anti-racists who outnumbered the participants.

(continued on page 2)

Dial 'F' For Fascist

—continued from page 1—

Fromm also had an earlier run-in with Bobiwash at the mayor's committee last fall when he yelled out "Scalp 'em!" while Bobiwash spoke. Fromm was a prominent organizer of the Western Guard, who were operative in Toronto in the early 70s and whose members keep on reappearing on the Toronto scene like a case of herpes.

The Heritage Front is also tied in to skinhead groups who are used for security at its gatherings. Late last year the group tried to bring David Irving, an infamous racist from Eng-

land who denies the Holocaust ever happened, to speak in Toronto. The tour was unsuccessful both in Toronto and across the country as anti-racist groups managed to get meeting halls pulled out from under them. Using city hall to stop fascists has it's own dangers, however, in that most legislation against hate-mongering has historically been turned against left groups. Anti-racist groups and individuals can bypass state power by organizing public and powerful opposition to fascists whenever they crawl out from under their rocks.



'The Clinics will stay open'

—continued from page 1—

Elsewhere in Toronto, the anti choice group "Campaign Life" opened up an office next door to the Cabbagetown Women's Health Clinic. On the night of the opening of their office, these religious bigots staged a demonstration, but were outnumbered by OCAC militants and other friends of choice. A second demonstration, planned by the same group, was cancelled at the last minute. The first of the attacks on the Morgentaler Clinic occurred only days later.

It is believed that these attacks represent a growing desperation on behalf of the anti choice fanatics due to their shrinking numbers and loss of much of their earlier support.

Pro-Choice spokespersons at the January 28 benefit however, chose not to focus on the attacks, but rather on the need for vigilance in the

upcoming period. The right to choose, said OCAC activist Cherie MacDonald, is not enough. Across most of Canada, she said, women have little if any access to free, safe abortion. The possibility of new abortion laws being raised in the courts again was predicted by activists.

Nevertheless, as Dr. Henry Morgentaler told the crowd, "we will never let the religious bigots and fascists turn the clock back." Despite the cowardly attacks, choice activists are on the offensive. Fighting not only to maintain the right to choose and mobilizing to keep the clinics running smoothly, but also working to extend access to free and safe abortions to women all over Canada.

To get involved in defending women's right to choose, and in opposing the bigots and their anti choice agenda, call OCAC at 969-8463.

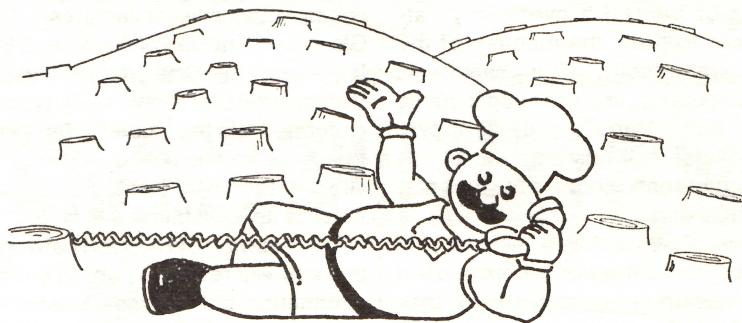
JUSTICE FOR WOMEN WHO FOUGHT BACK

The California Coalition for Battered Women in Prison (CCBWP) are planning a strategy to achieve justice for battered women in prison. They are drafting a procedure by which battered women in prison can request clemency or commutation from the governor. The CCBWP is recruiting pro-bono attorneys to assist these women in preparation of their requests, and is seeking to identify and document all battered women currently serving terms in California state prisons. This is an idea which should be pursued here at home. For more information call 415-255-7036.

Pizza Pizza's Dirty Deal

(TORONTO) A secret pact with Daishowa for cut-rate prices on their paper bags has convinced Pizza Pizza not to join the boycott of that company, a former Pizza Pizza employee contends. Romolo Salvati, a worker at the Toronto-based Pizza chain, resigned in disgust when he confronted managers on the ongoing boycott of Daishowa products. The transnational paper manufacturer, Daishowa has been the subject of an international boycott over their plans to clearcut unceded aboriginal territory in northern Alberta.

Recently Safeway stores and NOW Magazine have joined the boycott in support of the Lubicon Lake Indian Nation, whose lands and very society are threatened by Daishowa's plans. Pizza Pizza is one of the few companies who've remained steadfast in their support of Daishowa



despite a two-month old boycott called on all Pizza Pizza outlets.

Salvati's resignation and subsequent revelation of a secret deal prompted angry accusations from Friends of the Lubicon, local organizers of the Daishowa boycott, who called Daishowa's cut-rate offers to companies considering the boycott a modern-day "offer of 30 pieces of silver." Daishowa Vice-President Tom

Hamaoka also responded to Salvati's resignation in a letter Jan. 14. Hamaoka called the former employee an "unfortunate victim of a propaganda campaign by 'Friends of the Lubicon'". That the Vice-President of a huge multinational feels it's necessary to lie to a former Pizza Pizza employee is testament to the growing strength of the boycott campaign.

(For info: Friends of the Lubicon 783-4694

Columbus Lied!

(TORONTO) "Columbus lied." This was the consensus of 150 activists and community members brought together by the newly-formed Beyond '92 Coalition. The grouping reflected on the impact of the Columbus invasion and explored action possibilities at the forum "*In the Spirit of Survival and Resistance*", January 25.

Speakers Doreen Silversmith (Cayuga activist and two-spirited woman), Ignacio Matteo (Guatemalan indigenous/peasant activist), Atieno Odenyo (Kenyan activist and feminist) and David Abdullah (Trinidadian trade unionist) empha-

sized the continuing impact of the original invasion through neo-colonialism and global capitalism.

The culture of domination embodied by Columbus' voyage spread its tentacles to every corner of the globe, dis/affecting all peoples, particularly First Nations of the Americas, Africans and Asians. Participant Lennox Farrell raised criticism of Europeans jumping on the Native solidarity bandwagon, reminding us that Columbus' invasion had an equal impact on African nations. He argued that anti-Columbus work can't be reduced to a single-issue, charity-case campaign.

United resistance across cultures and working class unity emerged as a strong theme. Abdullah likened the impact of global economic integration and the consolidation of trading blocks to the industrial revolution. The exploitation of this "second industrial revolution" is a challenge we must rise to meet: our very survival depends on it. The past 500 years of resistance serves as inspiration against what seems like a monolithic enemy.

Beyond '92 Coalition intends to plan future events. For more information: 652-9854.

Resisters Remembered

In the past year, we've all been sickened by the U.S. Government's attempts to paint the memory of the Gulf War atrocity with a peachy and victorious hue, using the eager media as its brush. Happily, activists all over the States still rally to support imprisoned conscientious objectors and war resisters.

Over 2,500 soldiers filed for CO status during the war, others refused to show up or board buses, or they went AWOL. A year later, over 30 people are known to be imprisoned or facing charges. Several groups have not only refused to forget these prisoners, but they also organize speaking tours, protests and the dissemination of suppressed news.

U.S. authorities are not as pleased with this activity as we are.

Several GI resisters began speaking out publicly after being released. The military tried to silence them with letters warning the resisters of further disciplinary action if they participated

in any "unauthorized news conferences, interviews or lectures." The GIs ignored the gag order. In fact, the letters violate a law won during the Vietnam War that allows off-duty non-uniformed GIs the same limited legal freedoms as the public. A group of GIs plan to take the Pentagon to court and call its legal bluff.

The following CO support networks and anti-war resisters publish crucial information and provide prisoners' addresses (they need your support)

Black Vets for Social Justice, Inc.
686 Fulton St.
Brooklyn, NY 11217
tel: (718) 935-1116

War Resisters League
339 Lafayette St.
NY, NY 10012
tel: (212) 228-0450

Vietnam Vets Against the War/Anti-Imperialist
915 East Pine #408
Seattle, WA 98122
tel: (206) 328-4377

CALENDAR

February is African History Month.

Feb. 8 9:30am-4pm Lesbian Youth Peer Support sponsors a Sexuality Workshop for lesbians under 25. For info or to register call 539-9382. LYS meets every Monday at 6pm at the 519 Church St Community Center.

Feb. 9 1pm Gay and Lesbian Newswriting Workshop held by Rites Magazine. Free but call first. 736 Bathurst Suite 213, call 516-3363 for info.

Feb. 19 8pm Inside Annie Sprinkle screening and workshop with Sprinkle herself. A Space (183 Bathurst, 364-3227). NY's infamous sex activist/performance artist will be in town to perform her Post Porn Modernist at Buddies in Bad Times Theatre (142 George St, 863-9445) Feb 21-23

Feb 21 7pm and 9pm Multicultural Women in Concert, Socialist Black Lesbians and the Political Dyke Network in association with CKLN present a Lesbian Film Night at the Euclid Theatre, 394 Euclid Ave, tickets are \$10

Every Wednesday 6:00pm The March 8th Coalition meets to organize International Women's Day. All women welcome, childcare & accessible location. Bloor St Collegiate (1141 Bloor W) Info # 588-6310. (the Feb 5 meeting is being held at the Friends Meeting house 80 Lowther ave for this week only)

MEDIA WATCH



Bill Schiller, Toronto Star South Africa Correspondent—for devoting a full front page to white racist angst (*White South Africa's Worst Nightmare*, *Toronto Star*, 01/26/92, F1). White South African landowners are forming armed posses to fight what they call a rise in "black-on-white violence". White farmers sit on land stolen from Black farmers, "allowing" them to occupy a small corner of what was once theirs in exchange for labour. Schiller validates whites' whining bigotry: See? Not only whites are bad in South Africa...tsk, why can't these Blacks be more reasonable?



Gabriel Mahokoe—Black South African jailed for assassinating his slave-owner employer and employer's family; object of white racist paranoia (see above). "Mayibuye iAfrika!" he shouted during his attack, and after, "We are tired of being slaves....I am not sorry." Kudos to Gabriel for bringing apartheid's chickens home to roost. Let them tremble: who says they deserve better?

Ecomedia Toronto

Ecomedia is an international "wire service" that acts as an alternative to regular news services. We focus on news and often censored information on autonomous and anarchist resistance and analysis of current events.

Ecomedia Toronto is a local office involved in three main projects: radio show every Wednesday on CKLN 88.1 FM between 7 and 8 pm on the "Word of Mouth" program; also another radio spot, *Uppercut*, at 12:30 pm Tuesdays on CIUT 89.5 FM; and the bulletin in your hands, published bi-weekly and free at locations around the city. Subscriptions are \$18/yr (26 issues) mailed monthly to cut costs. Order from the address on the front. Make cheques or M.O.'s payable to Ecomedia.